पोटैंशियल है । उस संबंध में हम जरूर सोचेंगे । धन्यवाद ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): Now, the House is adjourned for lunch till 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at thirty-one minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-three minutes past two of the clock,THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) *in the Chair.*

THE FOREFEITURE (REPEAL) BILL, 2000

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): Sir, on behalf of Shri L.K. Advani, my senior colleague,

I move:

That the Bill to repeal the Forfeiture Act, 1859, be taken into consideration.

Sir, this is a very innocuous Bill, just repealing and removing the vestiges of the British days, the remnants of the old Act. When there was no IPC, when there was no Cr.PC, when there was no procedure, heinous crimes were punished, at that time, by appointment of commissions, and those commissions used to have their own procedure, used to formulate their own rules, and would seize, forfeit the properties of the people. As far as I understand, Sir, after the 1857 *gudder*, the revolt of 1857, all these crimes were considered heinous and the properties were forfeited. In 1869, some of the provisions of the Forfeiture Act were repealed, but still some Sections remained to be repealed. We are now proposing to remove all those laws which are just a burden on the Statute Book, which are unnecessary.

The Commission headed by Shri P.C.Jain, which was appointed to review all Administrative Laws and to point out the laws which are

unnecessary, also recommended that this Forfeiture Act of 1859 should be repealed. By repealing this Act, we will be removing one of the archaic laws and we will be taking away the useless burden on the statute book. We will also be annihilating the remnants of the old British days. I don't think any of the hon. Members present in this august House would like to waste the time of the House at this time as the teeth of the original provisions of the Act were removed in 1869 itself. But provisions which prevented persons who forfeited or ceased of holding the properties from going to the civil court or questioning the actions that were taken, and all these things remained. By this Forfeiture (Repeal) Bill we want to remove these anachronisms and the archaic laws which are in existence till today. I hope the House will agree with me and unanimously pass this Forfeiture (Repeal) Bill so that we can go ahead and comply with the recommendations of the P.C.Jain Commission as also remove the old remnants of the British Raj memories.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): The question is:

That the Bill to repeal the Forfeiture Act, 1859, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA) : Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI: Sir, I beg to move:

" That the Bill be passed."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): We shall now take up the second Bill. This is one of the Bills which we have passed so fast.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Sir, under your Chairmanship we have created one more record.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): Shri Vidya Sagar Rao to move the Passport (Entry into India) Amendment Bill, 2000.

THE PASSPORT (ENTRY INTO INDIA) AMENDMENT BILL, 2000.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, be taken into consideration.

Sir, the Indian Passport Act, 1920 provided two provisions, one for entry of those who are coming from outside and another for the exit of citizens from this country. This Passport Act was amended in 1967 and, at the same time, it was renamed as the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920. In the Act of 1967, for those who contravene the provisions a deterrent punishment was provided. But as far as the entry of persons into this country is conerned, the penal provisions are meagre. Therefore, it is felt that a deterrent punishment is necessary. Therefore, three amendments are proposed. One is to enhance the penalty stipulated in sub-section 3 of section 3 of the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920, that is, to make it "punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees, or with both". The second is to incroporate a new section, that is, section 3A, for doubling the penalty in the case of second conviction under the Act.

The third amendment is a minor amendments to Section 4(2) to draw reference to Section 57 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. In the old Code of Criminal Procedure, the section in regard to arrest was mentioned in section 61. Now it is section 57. With these words, I request the hon. Members to pass this Bill. Thank you.

The question was proposed.